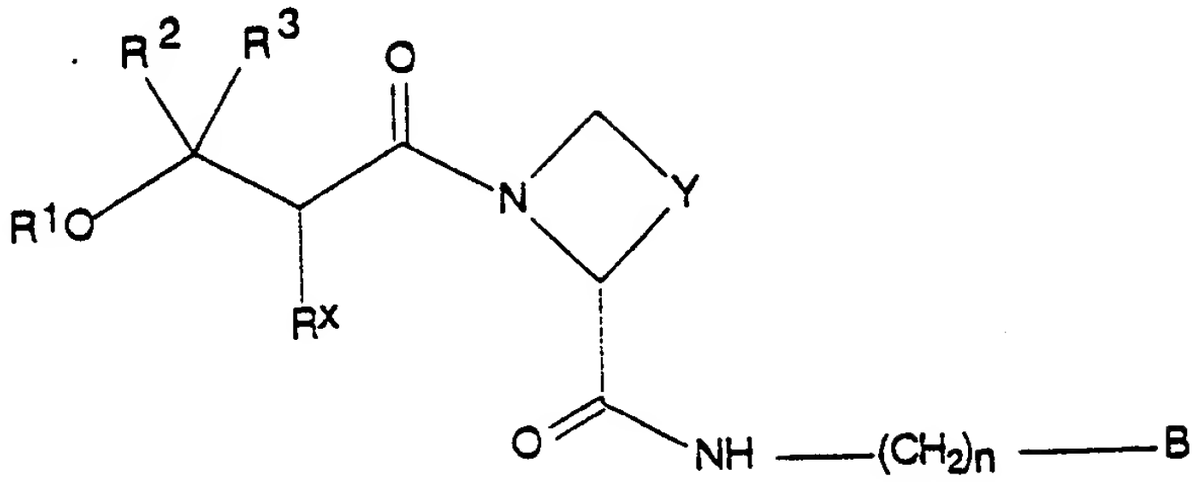


I

wherein

R^1 represents H;

R^{12}, R^{13} and R^{14} independently represent H, phenyl or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{16} represents C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, OH, $C(O)OR^{17}$ or $C(O)N(H)R^{18}$;

R^{18} represents H, C_{1-4} alkyl or $CH_2C(O)OR^{19}$;

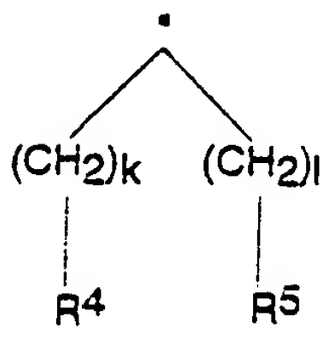
R^{15} and R^{17} independently represent H, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{7-9} alkylphenyl;

R^{11} and R^{19} independently represent H or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

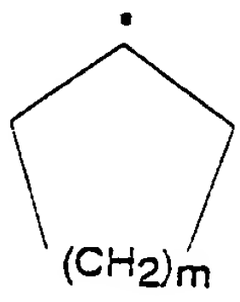
q represents 0, 1 or 2;

R^2 and R^3 are both hydrogen;

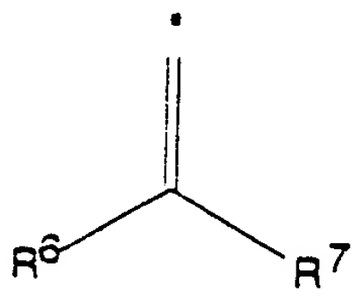
R^x represents a structural fragment of formula IIa, IIb or IIc,



IIa



IIb



IIc

wherein

k, l and m independently represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^4 and R^5 independently represent H, $Si(Me)_3$, 1- or 2-naphthyl, a polycyclic hydrocarbyl group, $CHR^{41}R^{42}$ or C_{1-4} alkyl (which latter group is optionally substituted by one or more fluorine atoms), or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, phenyl, methylenedioxyphenyl, benzodioxanyl, benzofuranyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, coumaranonyl, coumarinyl or dihydrocoumarinyl (which latter twelve groups are optionally substituted by one or more of C_{1-4} alkyl (which latter group is optionally substituted by one or more halo substituent), C_{1-4} alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, SO_2NH_2, C(O)OH or $N(H)R^{43}$);

R^{41} and R^{42} independently represent cyclohexyl or phenyl;

R^6 and R^7 independently represent H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, phenyl (which latter group is are optionally substituted by one or more of C_{1-4} alkyl (which latter group is optionally substituted by one or more halo substituent), C_{1-4} alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, SO_2NH_2, C(O)OH or $N(H)R^{44}$) or together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl ring;

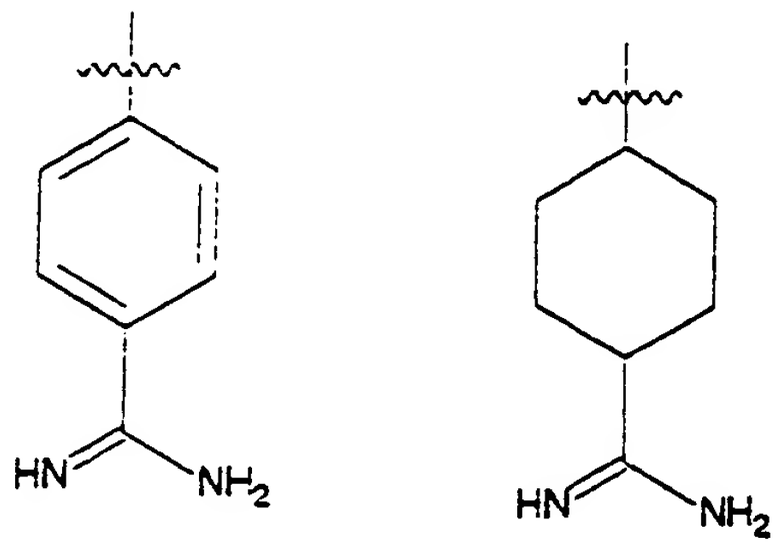
R^{43} and R^{44} independently represent H or $C(O)R^{45}$; and

R^{45} represents H, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy;

Y represents $(CH_2)_2$, CH=CH, $(CH_2)_3$, $CH_2CH=CH$ or $CH=CHCH_2$, which latter three groups are optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl, methylene, oxo or hydroxy;

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B represents a structural fragment of formula IVa or IVc



IVa IVc

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. (Twice Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 which is

(*R,S*)-PhCH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-(*R,S*)-Hig;

(*S*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-3-aminophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-(methylamino)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-(methylamino)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-PhCH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-3-hydroxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-((3-chloro-5-methylphenyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-((3-chloro-5-methylphenyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-fluorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)CO-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-fluorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)CO-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-chlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-chlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-3,5-dimethylphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-3-methoxy-5-methylphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R,S*)-3,4-(methylenedioxyphenyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-(2-naphthyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-(2-naphthyl)-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-2,5-dimethylphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-2,5-dimethylphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3,5-dichlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3,5-dichlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-2,3-dimethoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-2,3-dimethoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-3-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*S*)-3-methoxy-5-chlorophenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

(*R*)-2-methyl-5-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab; or

(*S*)-2-methyl-5-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. (Twice Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 17 which is

(*R,S*)-Ph-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OH;

(*S*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)CO-Pro-Pab(Z);

(*R*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)CO-Pro-Pab(Z);

(*S*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OH;

(*R*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OH;

(*S*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OC(O)Et;

(*R*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OC(O)Et; or

(*S*)-3-methoxyphenyl-CH(CH_2OH)-C(O)-Pro-Pab-OC(O)CH_3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.